The Times Dispatch

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WANTED—A STATE BUREAU OF GOVERNMENTAL INFORMATION.

"Isn't there a certain vagueness about the platforms of these candidates for the Legislature who have any platforms at all? And why this mystery as to the views of those who have not said a word as to what they think and desire? Ought any 'mum' candidate to be elected? It isn't too late yet for a clear-cut statement. Speak up, gentlemen," urges the Charlottesville Progress.

Long before the first candidate for the House of Delegates of 1914 pitched his hat into the ring, The Times-Dispatch was hammering on the necessity of explicit and unambiguous declarations of platforms from all prospective legislative candidates. The common endeavor of many forward-looking newspapers in the Commonwealth has harvested a great sheaf of declarations of principles. If a canvass were to be made, it is thought that vastly more than a majority of candidates would be found to have published their platforms. It is quite certain that never before have so many of them so frankly expressed their attitudes on public issues, and yet unquestionably a general indictment of "a certain vagueness" can be brought against the lot. To declare for tax reform, for instance, means anything and nothing, because no method is outlined by which the candidate, if elected, would seek to accomplish such reform. The legislative platforms have been almost naked in so far as details are concerned. Candidates are pledged to phrases rather than to definite means of reform.

Such indefiniteness in some cases may be with malice aforethought, but in a majority of instances The Times-Dispatch believes the reverse true. Lack of information as to public questions is the controlling fault and not lack of willingness to take the people into confidence. Candidates cannot go into particulars unless they have studied public problems, and candidates cannot study public problems unless they have concise, clear and correct information at hand. The bulk of those who are seeking seats in the House of Delegates are not within reach of adequate libraries. They do not possess copies of all the reports of State officers; they do not have access to the latest books and pamphlets devoted to public issues in the progressive States, and many of them never see the few newspapers of Virginia which endeavor continually to supply the people with the facts and theories upon which to plan and realize the vision of a nobler Virginia. No doubt a respectable proportion of the candidates catch hold of a platitudinous phrase which in the most general way expresses their views, trusting to learn more in detail when they come to Richmond and rub shoulders with experienced legislators.

These conditions justify the establishment of a State legislative reference library at Richmond or Charlottesville. Its function would be to supply full, accurate and unbiased information about the facts of government in this or any other State to any citizen of Virginia, whether he be legislator, candidate, councilman, carpenter, shoemaker, farmer or anything else. Such an institution would be of especial service to members of the General Assembly when it is in session. The legislative reference librarian would supply legislators with any information they desired about the State government and about progressive laws in other States, and would draft bills for legislators so that they would be legal and in line with enlightened thought. He would give first aid to the lawmakers. He would prevent the enactment of unconstitutional statutes. He would be the nonpartisan architect of State legislation.

Wisconsin has such an institution, and Virginia ought to have one. Before constructive legislation is attempted in Wisconsin, so far as possible all the facts relating to the subject are gathered and considered, including those of other States and nations. Expert knowledge and scientific philosophers brought to play in the making of laws.

If Virginia had a legislative reference library, not only candidates for the General Assembly, but all the people as well, could get free, full and accurate information on public matters. Vague declamation and meaningless platforms will vanish. If it be paternalism for the state to supply its people with information as to their government, it is a wise and far-sighted paternalism that needs no defender.

A PARADISE FOR ARTISTS.

Why is there no Virginia school of painters? What illustrious has made the crew of art neglect the golden opportunities for fame that hide round every road corner or lurk in the waters of our rivers and on the crests of our mountains? All the other supremely beautiful spots in the world have secured advertisement for their beauties from the folks who have learned to love them. Virginia has, so far as we know, not even one man who gives himself to the depiction of her charms with pigment.

This seems strange. There is no more varied or beautiful scenery in the world than here in the Old Dominion. A great artist might win eternal fame by simply catching the misty variations of the Blue Ridge. He could live in its ranges for years and still find new tones of blue and gray and green and amethyst; new riffles of water playing in the sunlight; new cloud pictures rearing themselves along the sleepy old peaks. In the Piedmont, he might find broken vistas of hills that suggest those well-rounded and comfortable looking paintings of the English landscape school. We have no fat kine or sheep of gigantic proportions, but we have some most elegant hogs to lend interest to the scene.

Over in the Valley, already famed around the world for beauty as recorded in sentimental songs, are pastorals waiting to be limned. In the Southwest is rugged mountain scenery again, not to mention interesting types of mountaineers. For marine work, what could surpass the vast extent of our bays and rivers? Tidewater would give a genius his life work in seeing and portraying the thousand nuances of shadow, broken water, mists and banked clouds. A chap named Leon Dabo has caught the poetry of the Hudson River in marvelous decorative canvases. Why does he not come down to learn the colored mysteries of the York and the James?

Far be it from us to talk commercially, but a few good paintings of Virginia traveling around the country at big exhibitions would be excellent advertising. Folks talk of picturesque Virginia and see posters that are absolutely false to its true beauty, but they do not understand the wealth of scenic charm all over the State. We imagine substantial money prizes offered by the Chamber of Commerce, or by the State itself, for the best paintings of Virginia scenery would be helpful.

There is the school of painters in Brittany. There is the name, if no longer the fact, of Barbizon. Scotland, the Alps, the Riviera have their painters. The Western plains of America, the great cities of the New England coast, and other parts of the country, claim tribute from pictorial genius. Can we not encourage a Virginia school?

MORE LIGHT IN THE MOVIES.

Councilman John W. Moore is altogether right in his movement to drive "blackest midnight born in Stygian cave forlorn" from the motion picture theatres of Richmond. His proposed ordinance to require managers of such theatres to maintain at all times within them a reasonable degree of light should become law. Some of the better amusement houses of this class have already begun a half-light policy in response to antivice sentiment in the city, but the practice should be made compulsory upon all.

Much of the protest against moving-picture theatres is due to the darkness in them, which mantles much wrongdoing and enables the masher to do what he fears to do in the light of the streets. If a certain degree of light prevailed in all these theatres, far less annoyance to women would result. Evil fears light. In motion-picture theatres in Boston and in other cities, a successful lighting experiment has been made with a pale green light, which not only dispels darkness, but pleases the eyes. Not in the least does it impair the distinctness of the pictures. When the spectator leaves the theatre and walks out into daylight he is not half blinded, as he would be if he emerged from an unlighted place.

The Moore ordinance accords with sound public policy and embodies good morals. No just opposition can be raised against it; it imposes no unreasonable burden upon anybody, but removes a source of evil. The pasty-faced, shifty-eyed, loudly-dressed vagrants of the streets do not want it, but the people do.

LATER CURRENCY BILL DISCUSSION.

Time, reflection and a broader understanding and keener analysis of the Glass-Owen currency bill, and a more careful weighing of its merits against the objections to it, are mellowing judgment of the measure, and are imparting both a more intelligent and more just tone to criticism of it. Sober second thought is manifesting itself in the all-round view; confidence that it will eventually serve the purpose is evidenced in the expectation and belief that reasonable and acceptable compromise will be reached.

An example of the spirit of the later and calmer discussion is furnished by the New York Sun. That contemporary, in introducing a very temperate dissection of what it conceives to be the most striking defects of the bill, no one of which, it is satisfied, cannot be easily remedied, says:

"To be effective criticism of the administration's banking bill must take the form of constructive suggestion. Until inordinate political control, amounting to management of the banking system, was injected into the measure it provided improved financial machinery well adapted to the volume and diversity of American trade and industrial interests. Regarded as a working basis for conference and discussion leading to wise amendment, it is encouraging in spite of some present objectionable aspects."

The reference here to "inordinate political control" is reference to the power proposed to be vested in the Federal Reserve Board, a feature so repugnant to many that in their criticisms they have been led largely to judge the whole by the part, to their blinding against judgmatic discrimination.

Another example in point we find in the Indianapolis News's comments upon and commendation of the Sun's article. The News reminds its readers that it is not proposed to jam the bill through in its present form, nor is there any thought of limiting discussion or of withholding opportunity to offer amendments; that the whole subject is to be carefully considered by committees of both houses, and then by the houses themselves, and that no one man in the country is more interested in getting through the right sort of legislation than the President, for the responsibility for failure, as well as the credit for success, will be very largely his. Then the News resumes:

"The Sun is, we think, quite right in saying of the bill that 'regarded as a working basis for conference and discussion, it is encouraging in spite of some objectionable aspects.' We at least have something definite to debate. Even the differences of opinion as to Federal control of the banks, serious though they are, might conceivably be reconciled. It is possible, for instance, to have control and regulation without management."

It is also the News's opinion that the Sun is right when it argues that to be "effective, criticism of the administration's banking bill should take the form of constructive suggestion." In that we concur.

In urging objections suggest something better—suggest a remedy. That is what the framers of the measure and the President have frankly asked. Compliance is frankly due, not only to them in view of the responsible position in which they are placed, but in the interest of evolving from that multitude of counsel in which there is wisdom, "improved financial machinery well adapted to the volume and diversity of American trade and industrial interests," to requote the Sun's words, which crystalize the whole purpose and necessity of currency reform legislation, the sole desire of the administration and the pledge in the Democratic party's platform.

WHERE WILL BEEF COME FROM?

More fundamental than tariff reform or an elastic currency is the problem of supplying food for nearly 100,000,000 people. That this is becoming a grave matter is proved by the figures on population and beef production now going the round of the agricultural and daily press. These summarized read: In 1907 we had 72,500,000 head of cattle. This year there are 56,000,000. The falling off is almost entirely in beef cattle, as the dairy herds remain about the same. We have 16,000,000 less cattle to supply some 12,000,000 more people. Moreover, while 494,000 head were exported in 1911, only 36,000 head went out of the country in 1912. The difference is not being held in storage, for there is much less beef thus stored than a few years ago. We are simply not producing the beef.

The cause of this decrease is not temporary. It is fundamental. The grazing land is being settled and devoted to other purposes. The beef-raising plant has been reduced. In addition, the number of people raising food products generally has been reduced by migration to the city, with a consequent increase in the number of nonproducers who must be fed by the remaining population on the farms. Other nations are going through the same process, so the chance of outside relief by exchange of our city products to foreign farmers is slight.

Various measures of relief are suggested. The intensive rearing of cattle by small farmers will help somewhat. The conservation of young calves to be raised to beef age, instead of slaughtered for veal, will increase the total production. The diffusion of city populations into semirural districts, where they can cultivate some of their own foods, may lessen the drain. Adjustment of international trade relations is expected to enable us to import more beef.

Yet it is clear these are only half-measures. They will not answer the main question. At the risk of seeming visionary we suggest that in the laboratory may be found a solution. The question of life is merely that of getting sufficient food in assimilable form. Now we use the cattle as machines for converting certain grains and grasses into fat, protein and other substances. If science can invent a method of producing these materials for food directly from the elements, or even from the present cattle foods, the intervention of an animal as a retort in the chemical change will be unnecessary.

The use of trees and other vegetable forms to produce materials used by men has, in part, been supplanted by the quicker changes of the laboratory. Instead of waiting for years for a vanilla bean to come, we can take the raw material and get a satisfactory substitute. In the light of this, we see no reason to fear the extinction of the race because there is not enough room to raise cattle for beef.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt is taking a vacation trip through England, but in due season Mrs. Catt will come back.

The New York newspaper man who has started out to circle the globe in thirty-five days will have to hustle on his assignment.

No newspaper language can be too violent, thank goodness, when it comes to swatting the fly.

When the debate on the lobby investigation came up in the House Saturday, Alfalfa Bill Murray, of Oklahoma, was heard at his best in fiery denunciation of the enemies of democracy. It was Bill who addressed the chair in favor of Wilson every second down at the Baltimore Democratic Convention.

The people of the United States paid $219,000,000 to see the moving pictures last year. More than $80,000,000 is invested in the industry and more than 200,000 persons are employed. How'd you like to be a member of the moving-picture trust?

Vice-President Marshall can always be depended upon for an interview when no news is to be found.

The Orange Observer, in a eulogistic notice of a recently-elected legislator, declares that "he has a fine voice and sings well." Well, we hope he can sing some of the bad bills in the next General Assembly into everlasting sleep.

Why is it that the man who rocks the boat is so often saved?

Councilman Umlauf has the right idea about making "Clean-up Day" permanent.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

Ambition.

Let others work and lose their health
In piling up the sordid wealth,
But that is not my wish.
Let others burn the midnight oils
Devising ways of grabbing spoils—
I'd rather sit and fish.

Let others solve the problems great,
Affecting the affairs of State;
None of that on my dish.
Let others hew the nation's path
And hear a thankless public's wrath—
I'd rather sit and fish.

Let others lead the strenuous life,
That's full of worry, toil and strife,
But that's not my ambish.
Let others wear their lives away
By living five years every day—
I'd rather sit and fish.

Good Old Days the Best.

An Eastern scientist claims that the people of this world didn't begin to really live until forty years ago, and that life up to that time was not worth while. This is an open question, and many will disagree with the professor, who claims that the inventions of the last forty or fifty years are what makes life bearable.

We don't gree with him, and if you think it over you will have to admit that in those good old days a lot of our present day nuisances were unheard of. Following are a few of the things the people of those times didn't have to stand for:

Microbes.
Appendicitis.
Squawking phonographs.
Reckless automobile drivers.
Bubbly drinking fountains.
Leaky fountain pens.
Wheezy furnaces with tremendous appetites.
Sawdust breakfast food.
Peg top trousers with cuffs.
Vaudeville yodlers.
50-cent butter.
Screechowl automobile horns.
Musical comedies.

This, That and the Other.

There is a genius in our town who has worked out and patented a device known as the "noise arrester," which has Maxim's silencer beaten by a long mile. This delicate little piece of mechanism is built on the plan of a phonograph with a horn attachment and records sound. It is fastened under the floor of a street car, and as the car goes bounding along the "arrester" absorbs all of the noise so that a person on the sidewalk cannot hear the car go by. At the end of the line the "arrester" is detached from the car and a fresh one put on. The noise which has been condensed is placed in tin cans and sealed up ready for shipment. When the cans are opened, pandemonium is let loose, and one can of this noise will last about as long as a prestolite tank full of gas.

According to Uncle Abner.

Old man Haskins has got the evenest temper in our town. He's mad all the time.

It is pretty hard to give a young kid a bicycle nowadays. He wants an oatmobile.

Elmer Jones is disconsolate because the village milliner has refused him three times. He says he is dead set on marryin' some woman who kin make her own hats.

There ain't much hope of President Wilson recognizing Mexico when he can't even recognize his own Vice-President.

The Lohengrin march is about the most expensive tune a young man kin hear.

Any feller who brags about his oatmobile is a fool, for something happens about two minutes afterward.

Voice of the People

Eugenic Marriages.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—If the dictionary gives the correct definition of the word, eugenics is not as might be supposed from the ado made over it, some noble science with mysterious Greek name, but is simply the commonplace science—or art rather—of breeding animals, be they kittens, puppies or babies. Those, therefore, priding themselves upon cultivating the now fashionable pursuit of eugenics should abate their self-gratulation by remembering that, after all, they are engaged only in breeding stock.

But our theme is not eugenics, but eugenic marriage. The advocates of such marriage, however, take a very narrow and partial view of the matter; they confine themselves to one aspect of the case and to one sex, whereas, if they wish to correct evils, they should embrace every aspect and both sexes. If the men are to be brought to taw on one point, they should be brought to taw on all points and made to furnish a clean bill of health as regards head, heart, lungs, liver kidneys, bladder, as well as other organs. And, if the men, why not the women—not only of the organs common to both sexes, but especially of those peculiar to them; also, ability and willingness to perform the duties of wife, mother, housekeeper and rearer of children? For on the due combination of all these many qualities, dispositions, etc., depends the future of the race. If inquisition, as a prerequisite of marriage, is made in one particular or in one direction, it should be made in all, otherwise the particular offense aimed at will never be corrected nor will there be material improvement in any respect.

Much more is hinted at than said about the injury inflicted upon innocent wives by wicked husbands, but the idea seemingly is sought to be conveyed that it is great. Reformer-like, they hint rather than allege, and then magnify the hint; like reports of children in Florida devoured by alligators, everybody affirmed, but nobody ever knew the fact. And so of wrong to innocent wives by wicked husbands through the generative organs. To bolster up the plea for eugenic marriage, the evil is claimed to be widespread, yet nobody seems ever to have known of a solitary case. The stirrers-up of hygienic marriage—the preachers—need not give names, but let them cite well-authenticated cases, and, if they cannot cite many, it may be suspected that, in advocating eugenic marriage, they are seeking cheap notoriety.

But, granting there is real cause for the crusade, the refusal of the preachers to marry without a clean bill of sexual health will not prevent marriage in the same old way, because magistrates abound, and if the preachers will not marry, the magistrates will, and the only effect will be the loss to the preachers of the marriage fees.

Eugenic marriage is one of the many reform fads—like minimum wages, reforming fallen women, etc., etc.—that women and preachers are constantly agitating, but which, being founded on ignorance of human nature, soon pass away. Reformers forget that reform is a slow process requiring a generation or more to show results. Reform must begin in human nature, and human nature changes slowly, very slowly. CIVIS.

Richmond.

Voters With Children Should Elect Superintendents.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Since we have had the great contest over our schools in nearly half of the counties in the State, it is evident that the present system is especially good for the few officeseekers, but it has proven itself very unsatisfactory to the people whom the officeholders are supposed to serve.

These being the conditions of affairs, the year is at hand for the people to demand of their representatives that we have a law in Virginia that all school officers be elected by the people, and on this special election no one be allowed to vote except those who have children of the school age.

Then where there are incompetent school superintendents and uneducated school trustees, it will be the fault of the people. J. T. KIRKS.

Gettysburg—1863-1913.

(To my father, uncles and their comrades.)

Great armies on thy field we see,
Eighteen hundred and sixty-three;
Thousands as one struggle and fight,
Terrible beyond words the sight—
Years since then have passed away,
See the peaceful picture of this day,
Brothers now nearing their setting sun,
Urge each for country their all be done,
Reared though honoring shafts to the sky,
Guard these they left when they did die.

A. R. CHALMERS.

Washington, D. C., June 29.

Good Manners Never Grow Old.

To the Editor of the Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—While you are "protesting" I would like to say that some of us "old-timers" are immensely pleased to find that in your list of protests you include that of smoking in public dining-rooms. Most of us have been from childhood accustomed to tobacco smoke, and, in its proper place, do not object to it. However, the youth of to-day who smokes his cigarette and the girl who allows it on the street and in public places no doubt think that we, who look back to the custom of another generation, are woefully antiquated and behind the times.

May I recall an incident at our rehearsal for the Wednesday Club concerts? After the soloists had rehearsed their numbers the men of the orchestra and some of our own men on the floor of the auditorium lighted cigars and cigarettes in the faces of the chorus waiting to rehearse. The smoke came up to us in light clouds, and was anything but pleasant to throats already made sensitive by much singing.

Could this have occurred in the former years of our beloved Oratorio Society? I think not. S. B. H.

FLIES!

Horse manure is the principal hatching place for flies.

It can be made sterile with coal oil, carbolic acid, copperas water or dry loam by mixing thoroughly.

Horsemen, stablemen, owners of horses and sanitary inspectors, pay attention! Cut this out.

Let 1913 be a flyless year.

Abe Martin

Some fellers raise rhubarb an' others raise side whiskers. Hardly anybuddy would work fer what they're worth.

CONGRESS MAY GO ON AN UNSYMPATHETIC STRIKE.

By John T. McCutcheon.

QUERIES & ANSWERS

Nat Turner.

Where may I get the fullest and most reliable details for an essay on the Nat Turner Insurrection?

R. T. FREEMAN.

Mainly from the newspapers of the time—the Norfolk Herald and the Norfolk Beacon and the Richmond Whig and the Richmond Enquirer. But you will find about as complete, exact and reliable story as any one could want in W. S. Drewry's "The Southampton Insurrection," published in 1900. It is drawn from the sources mentioned above and many others, contains about 200 pages of matter and many illustrations and a map of Southampton County, and any bookseller will get it for you.

Diplomatic.

I am as pleased as most people to see prominent Virginians appointed to ambassadorships, etc. Will you, however, inform me if there is to-day any real need for ambassadors anywhere?

S. R. T.

None whatever. The practice of sending envoys for particular occasions was a necessary one when communication between nations was, by physical circumstances, confined to messengers. The practice by which each nation had a resident representative at the court of every other nation was a good one so long as international communication was slow, and the maintenance of one man of judgment and his necessary suite was cheaper to the taxpayer than the cost of oft-repeated embassies. But to-day the whole scheme is a discredited farce. It is one of the many survivals of things once useful and now fallen into abuse, and it illustrates how difficult it is for the privileged classes to consent to any blocking of their way to the hard-earned dollar of the common people. There is ever a great demand for investment which shall be at the same time perfectly safe and highly profitable, and we had once supposed that these characteristics in their finest flower were to be found only in that insidious financial proposition so often insinuated into the ear of youth, "heads I win; tails, you lose." But it is clear that the world's diplomatic service does not offer even a fairer field than this because it is perfectly certain that no ambassador nor minister to a foreign court has ever in any fair sense earned one dollar of his pay since the days of instant communication between governments themselves by telegram. If the holders of the purse, the people, who, as in Kipling's stanzas, "pay and pay and pay," could read the cablegrams—couched, of course, in the diplomatic cipher—which swell the burden of the American taxpayer to the extent of some ten thousand dollars a month for telegraph tolls, our part at least in this childish play would promptly cease. Bales of these precious documents might be perused without discovering aught of greater import than the wail of our ambassador at Paris that he is not allowed to spit till the English ambassador is done or the complaints from Germany that the party Willie went to was not so "classy" as Sam's.

There is excellent commercial reason for the maintenance of consular service. There is now absolutely none of any sort for the maintenance of a diplomatic corps. For years every clause of every treaty has been the subject of scrutiny and alteration by the deliberative assembly or the home ministry of every country involved, and a Hay-Pauncefote treaty is to-day no more the work of the men who sign it than it is the work of the men who make the ink with which it is written. And in some conspicuous case about the best apology which American "high signatories" could plead is that they had no part in the making of their own treaty except the affixing of their "high sign."

All questions like this may seem to be complicated, but they are not really so. "Statesmen" retain their fat and juggling jobs largely by the solemnity of their warning, ne manus violasset dona Minervae, that hands profane touch not the arcana of the political gods. But there is ever one test, simple to be applied, and it involves the sole person who is entitled to the faintest consideration. By this the efficiency of every act of every government may be tried, and it is this question, does the taxpayer, the causa sine qua non, the man whose labor pays for every stitch in every garment worn by every "official" in every government, does he get a fair return for his money? So long as he does, we have all Mr. Roosevelt's approval for a square deal. The instant that he does not some one is responsible for the squandering by pilfling idiocy or intentional theft; and the matter of the propriety of a diplomatic corps, like every other such matter, may be settled by the one question—does it pay the man who pays for it?

VIEWS OF THE VIRGINIA EDITORS

The Fee System Must Be Destroyed.

Keep up the good work, neighbor; time will prove that the contention of the Courier, the Record, The Times-Dispatch, and a number of others, was right. The fee system was doubtless all right a hundred years ago, but in the dawn of the twentieth century is all wrong. The fee system must either be abolished or amended.

From our exchanges we learn that candidates for the Legislature in a number of counties are taking the people into their confidence, and in manly fashion are telling why they are against the fee system, and why they will vote against it, in its present form, if elected this fall.—Page Valley Record.

Heaven Protect the Working Girl.

God bless the girl who works. She is not too proud to earn her own living, nor ashamed to be caught at her daily task. She smiles at you from behind the desk and counter; she greets you kindly in the shop or office, and she meets you pleasantly and cheerfly in the marts of trade. There is a sweet memory of her in everything she touches. She is like a brave mountaineer, already far up the precipice climbing, struggling, rejoicing. The sight is an inspiration. It is an honor to know this girl and be worthy of her esteem. Lift your hat to her, young man, as she passes. She passes as a queen in the realm of womanhood. She is a princess among the toilers. Her hands may be stained by dish washing, sweeping or factory grease, but they are honest hands. They stay misfortune form the home; they support the invalid loved ones maybe; they are moving, potent shields that protect a family from the poorhouse. God bless and protect the girl who works!—Sandy Valley News.

One Reunion Suffices.

The proposition to hold another national peace jubilee to commemorate General Lee's surrender at Appomattox is not being received with any notable degree of approval in either the North or South. Nor does it deserve to be. That Gettysburg reunion sufficed for all the high and noble purposes that are to be gathered from a commingling and fraternization of veterans who, as brave soldiers, once opposed each other in war. To carry the tendency so far as to make a joyful holiday affair of the fiftieth anniversary of the South's defeat—and this, too, on Virginia soil, would be to proceed to an extent which the spirit of national reconciliation does not require, and which would trespass in harsh and violent measure upon memories that the Southern people will never cease to cherish as betaking of the utmost sanctity.—Lynchburg News.

How to Use Corn.

Experts of the Agricultural Department in Washington are studying how the most can be made out of the corn crop. They ought to come down and live in the mountains of Southwest Virginia about a week and they will soon find out how it is done. The moonshiners can teach them few things—Abingdon Virginian.

The Watch Dog of the Treasury.

Bad news comes from Roanoke County in reports of the continued and very dangerous illness of Colonel A. M. Bowman, chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means of the Virginia House of Delegates. Colonel Bowman is president of an important and prosperous bank at Salem and a farmer with a fad for fine and fancy cattle, as becomes a man born and brought up in the Valley of Virginia. It is a pleasant and happy little instance of the ethics of Virginia politics and illustration of this legislator's standing among his own people that, pending the result of his illness, there has not been even a suggestion of an opponent or a successor. Indications are that if he recovers in time for the next session he will be re-elected without opposition, provided he feels able to meet the demands likely to be made on his thought and energy.—Roanoke Times.